



The Lake Fern Montessorian

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November 2010

Roxanne's Reflections

News for all LFMA families!

◆ The next two months are going to be filled with friends and family activities. It certainly will be no different for us at LFMA. Grab your calendar and mark it as you read your November newsletter.

Since the last part of September, a talented team of parents have been meeting to work on the playground remodeling project. They have produced a plan that has something for each child. It includes a basketball court that can be used for other things such as tennis, four square etc. and an obstacle course. We are planning a series of work days to reconfigure the playground and build the new equipment. Our first work day will be Saturday, November 13th beginning at 9 AM. Closer to that time reminders will be posted. We will also soon post a drawing of the design on the office door. A short planning meeting will be held Wednesday, November 10th.

Every project of this size needs funding and our parent team has decided on a fund raiser that will appeal to everyone. It comes at a perfect time for the gift giving season. A packet was distributed to each family on Monday, October 25th. The campaign will run through November 15th. All orders must be received by close of business Monday, November 15th. This way we will get all the orders filled in time for the holidays. If you have any questions, feel free to see me or a staff member.

On Thursday, November 11th school will be closed to observe Veterans Day. Take time to thank a veteran or active duty service member for their service to our country!

On Friday, November 19th, the private individuals who

Mrs. Price's Class News

◆ November is always an extremely busy month for us and I suspect it will go by quickly. The students will be finishing up their unit studies in earth and physical science and spend some time working on North America. Students will continue to work on reading, spelling, and vocabulary and practice at home is encouraged. In math, students will continue working with addition and subtraction, telling time, identifying and counting coins, identifying and comparing fractions, place value, word problems, and graphing.

Our Holiday Gathering is fast approaching and is planned for December 10th at 7:00 p.m. at First Christian Church of Titusville. The students have already been working on the program and are doing great. I have a feeling it is going to be one of our best yet, so you will want to bring family, friends, and a camera to be sure. If your child will not be there for the program, please let me know as soon as possible.

November 12th concludes our first semester and report cards will be given out at conferences during the week of November 15th through the 19th. A sign up sheet will be in the foyer during the preceding week and I would like to meet with every family.

Please remember that we will be closed on November 11th in honor of Veteran's Day and November 25th and 26th for Thanksgiving. Our annual Private Citizen Thanksgiving feast will be held on November 19th at 11:30. A sign up sheet will be available for side dishes and Mr. Jeff will provide his wonderful deep fried turkeys, drinks, and paper products.

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Roxanne's Reflections (cont.)

own the property at 257 Aguinaldo Avenue would like to invite our private citizen friends, the children, parents and extended family members who just might attend Lake Fern Montessori Academy Inc., to a holiday picnic. Since the Brevard County Health department says LFMA cannot have a pot luck picnic, we as private citizens will. This property is owned by private citizens not the school corporation. Private citizens will provide deep fried turkey, drinks and disposable plates, utensils and napkins. You as private citizens, can bring your favorite side dish or desert to share with the other private citizens. This private gathering will look a lot like the Thanksgiving Feast that used to be held on the premises by Lake Fern Montessori Academy. No Government agency can stop private citizens from gathering and sharing lunch (at least not yet). If you have questions, please see one of the private citizens who also happen to work at Lake Fern Montessori Academy.

November 25th and 26th school will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday. This will give our LFMA families and staff time to spend with friends and family, enjoy delicious foods and maybe do a little holiday shopping. Please enjoy your time and have a safe holiday. We will be back in session on Monday, November 29th.

* Planning Ahead to December *

- LFMA Holiday Gathering – Friday, December 10th at 7 PM, First Christian Church of Titusville.
- December 24th through December 31st – school closed for the Winter Holiday
- Monday, January 3rd – school resumes



Pre-Primary Class News

Miss Jennifer and Miss Jessica

◆ To start with we'd love to give a big "Thank You" to all of our parents that volunteered for our Fall Festival! The children had a wonderful time and really enjoyed the different activities that were offered! Also, thank you to all of the parents that made it out to your child's parent conference. We really enjoyed sharing your child's success with you! If you weren't able to attend a conference please check your file folder for your child's evaluation.

We will continue this month with our studies of Africa and the human body. The letters we will be working on this month are h and f. As the weather starts to change (hopefully sooner than later) please make sure to send in an appropriate change of clothes to keep in your child's cubby.

Please keep in mind that on Thursday, November 11th LFMA will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day. Take the time to thank a service member for all of their hard work! We will also be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 25th and 26 for Thanksgiving. On Friday, November 19th, we will have our Annual Private Citizen Thanksgiving Feast. Come join us at 11:30 AM for a wonderful meal with your child and our LFMA family.

Please remember that Scholastic orders are due on Thursday, November 4th. Along with the 4 regular catalogs a Holiday catalog is also included! It's never too early to start shopping for Christmas! On November 15th, the fundraising packets are due back. Please have your packets turned in by then! We hope everyone has a wonderful November!



Mrs. Manley's Class News

◆ I hope all of you had a wonderful October. I was reminded a couple of weeks ago how much I love and miss east Tennessee this time of year. My parents had the chance to spend a week there. They brought back beautiful fall leaves and it was a reminder that somewhere it is beautiful with crisp fall colors. It hasn't been all that bad here; we have had a few cooler days.

Our classroom has been hopping with fun activities and lots of learning! We just recently finished *Al Capone Does My Shirts* and we have started our new book *The Jacket*. *The Jacket* is a book written by Andrew Clements about a boy who learns a great deal about himself and his surroundings. The kids are working diligently in math and getting very comfortable with the new material they are being introduced to. One area that would really benefit the children is practicing their multiplication tables. One of the other areas of focus that would be extremely beneficial for the kiddos would be reading. Be sure they read by themselves but also aloud to you as often as they can.

October went by so quickly and now that it is November, time will be flying by at Lake Fern with the start of the holiday season. November is very busy with many dates to remember so please take sometime to mark your calendars with the following dates for the important events we have going on at our school. Thursday, November 11th, school will be closed in observance of Veterans Day. November 15th through November 19th I will be having parent conferences. Please sign up for those conferences in the foyer. The sign-up sheet will be placed in the foyer Monday, November 8th. November 19th is the Lake Fern Family "Private Citizen" Thanksgiving Feast come and enjoy a delicious lunch and time with your Lake Fern family. November 25th and November 26th the school will be closed for Thanksgiving. Please mark your calendars with all of these dates.

I look forward to seeing you all at parent conferences!

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.

George Santayana (1863-1952)

Mr. Price's Class News

◆ Happy Thanksgiving! A time to count blessings and to be thankful for all that we have. We have also completed our first grading period. After completing a study in literary elements, we have begun our first literature book, *Brian's Winter*. It is sort of an "alternate ending to Hatchet." It is a story about a boy who is trapped in the wilderness alone and has to survive the brutal northern winter. In science, we will begin studying systems of the body, beginning with the cardiovascular and respiratory systems. In social studies, we will be looking at the voting cycle and understanding how the process of democracy works.

We have begun production on our Christmas play, "A Christmas Wizard of Oz." We encourage you to help practice lines with your children at home. Lines need to be memorized as soon as possible, so that we may begin working on staging, scenery, etc. Students are responsible for getting their own costumes. A list of suggestions will be going home this week.

We will have our Private Citizen Thanksgiving feast on November 19th at 11:30 a.m. Sign up sheets will be in the foyer for anyone that would like to bring side dishes or deserts. Mr. Jeff will provide turkeys, drinks, and paper products. A sign up sheet will be available for other items.



The end result of a "snowball fight" at the Fall Festival!

Nutrition for Kids – Ideas on how to improve your child’s eating habits

Eating right will help provide the nutrients needed to have energy, build strong bones, and fight diseases, and other conditions. Pay attention to what and how much your kids eat. A change in eating habits may be an early warning signal for other problems.

Snacks—Plan Them, Don’t Ban Them!

Unfortunately nearly one-fourth of kids’ daily energy intake comes from nibbling between meals. Much of this nibbling is on prepackaged snack foods, which are high in calories and low in nutrients. But snacking itself isn’t necessarily bad. Young children actually need snacks. Their stomachs are small, so they often can’t get all the nutrients they need in a day through meals alone.

It’s not always easy to persuade your kids to eat healthy snacks and their snacking habits aren’t going to change overnight, but here are a few snack-time tips:

Offer similar choices. Instead of ice cream or pretzels, offer your child frozen yogurt or soda crackers. Provide variety. Be sure to select snacks from a variety of food groups so your kids won’t be bored with their snack choice. Be creative. Dress up fruits and vegetables—offer celery with peanut butter, or carrots with a low-fat dip.

Food Allergies

According to the Food and Drug Administration, up to 6% of children in the U.S. under age 3 have food allergies. They are less common in adults but, overall, food allergies affect nearly 4 million people. Along with milk, eggs, wheat, soy, and shellfish, peanuts are among the most common foods that cause allergies. For some kids, food allergies can cause only minor discomfort, like a little tingling in the mouth. But for others they can be severe, causing difficulty breathing, for example. Try to work with your child’s school to find ways your child can be supervised to prevent contact with allergenic foods. Find out who would give your child treatment and discuss your child’s allergies with that person, making sure that they have any necessary medications and medical information.

Fruit Juice—Friend or Foe?

Although juice does contain some healthy nutrients, it’s high in calories and it may contribute to weight gain and tooth decay if consumed in excess. Some juice drinks, even those with 100% juice, have more calories than sugary carbonated beverages do. Juice also lacks the healthy fiber that whole fruit has. **Tip:** Try adding water or ice cubes to juice. The [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) recommends that children drink no more than two 6-ounce servings of fruit juice a day.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- VETERANS DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
- NOVEMBER 11TH
- PRIVATE CITIZEN THANKSGIVING FEAST
- NOVEMBER 19TH AT 11:30 PM
- THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
- NOVEMBER 25TH AND 26TH
- HOLIDAY GATHERING
- DECEMBER 10TH AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
- WINTER HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
- DECEMBER 24TH THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST
- SCHOOL RESUMES
- JANUARY 3RD, 2011